GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4298
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2005
SHORTAGE OF OPTICAL FIBRE CABLES
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is shortage of Optical Fibre Cables (OFC) in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of telephone exchanges in each State that has not been provided with OFC/Microwave facilities so far;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to provide OFC/Microwave facilities to those exchanges having 1000 lines; and

(e) the time by which the telephone exchanges specially in the rural areas are likely to be provided with OFC/Microwave facilities?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) Sir, there is no shortage of Optical Fibre Cables (OFC) with Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) or Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL), the Government telecom operators.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) Details are given in the Annexure.

(d) Policy of BSNL is to provide reliable media like Optical Fibre, Microwave, Satellite etc. to each exchange. All exchanges of BSNL including those having 1000 lines are already on reliable media.

(e) All exchanges are already on reliable media.

ANNEXURE EXCHANGE MEDIA DETAILS AS ON 31.10.2005

A. BSNL

Sl. No.	States	Total No. of Exchanges	OFC + M/W			No. of exchanges on reliable media other than OFC + M/W
			OFC	Ditital M/W	Total	
1	Andhra Pradesh	3477	3123	216	3339	138
2	Assam	600	533	64	597	3
3	Bihar	1155	1105	0	1105	50
4	Jharkhand	448	446	2	448	0
5	Gujarat	3276	3276	0	3276	0
6	Haryana	1115	1110	4	1114	1
7	Himachal Pradesh	955	742	128	870	85
8	Jammu and Kashmir	361	283	47	330	31
9	Karnataka	2707	2652	55	2707	0
10	Kerala	1206	1192	0	1192	14
11	Madhya Pradesh	2791	2562	0	2562	229
12	Chhattisgarh	634	529	18	547	87
13	Maharashtra	4809	4581	205	4786	23
14	Goa	136	136	0	136	0
15	Meghalaya (NE-I)	103	74	21	95	8
16	Mizoram (NE-I)	76	18	43	61	15
17	Tripura (NE-I)	97	74	16	90	7

18	Arunachal Pradesh (NE-II)	103	30	0	30	73
19	Manipur (NE-II)	55	43	0	43	12
20	Nagaland (NE-II)	58	25	2	27	31
21	Orissa	1138	1132	4	1136	2
22	Punjab	1541	1539	0	1539	2
23	Rajasthan	2343	2264	27	2291	52
24	Tamilnadu	2365	2268	56	2324	41
25	Uttar Pradesh	3197	2867	267	3134	63
26	Uttaranchal	451	380	0	380	71
27	West Bengal	1855	1830	25	1855	0
28	Sikkim	45	42	3	45	0
29	Andaman and Nicobar	52	40	0	40	12
Total		37149	34896	1203	36099	1050

B. MTNL

DELHI : All exchanges are on OFC.
MUMBAI : All exchanges are on OFC.